Illiteracy among Women

2897. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illiteracy among women still persists in the country;

(b) whether any study has been conducted by Government in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to reduce the number of illiterate women, State-wise, if it is not possible to remove the illiteracy among the women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Census operations conducted at an interval of ten years collect, inter-alia data pertaining to literacy. The latest information regarding the number of illiterate women is contained in the Census report of 1981. According to 1981 Census (excluding Assam) women literacy was 24.82 per cent.

(d) Government of India has initiated the following specific educational/literacy programmes for removal of adult illiteracy among women through National Policy on Education 1986 and Programme of Action:

(i) Emphasis on enrolment of atleast 50 per cent women in on-going adult education programmes through Rural Functional Literacy Projects, State Adult Education Projects, Voluntary Agencies, Universities/Colleges and programmes under other schemes. Programme of Action provides for a phased time bound programme of adult education for women in the age group: 15-35 by 1995.

(ii) Emphasis on opening of non-formal education centres for girls and women on 90:10 pattern for all educationally backward pockets of the country

(iii) Appointment of women instructors/teachers for women adult education/non-formal centres.

As the National Policy on Education 1986 and Programme of Action have been adopted by the Parliament, all the States/Union Territories are expected to adopt similar strategies for the programmes being implemented by them.

Repairs/renovation/renowal of railway stations, offices and tracks in Gujarat

2898. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that repairs, renovations and renewal have been done on any railway Stations, offices and railway tracks in various parts of Gujarat on Western Railway during 1st January, 1982 to 31st July, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names and places of each railway station, offices and railway tracks;

(c) how much amount has been spent on each one separately, yearwise, during the period;

(d) what were the actual plans, projects and estimates;

(e) whether more amount have been spent in comparison to original plans;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the complaints of corruption, irregularities bribes, etc. have been received in granting and providing facilities to contractors, etc.;

(h) if so, the details of enquiries made in this regard and the action taken against persons involved therein; and

(i) what are the plans, projects and expenditure for the above projects during 1st September, 1987 to 31st December, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Water Transport

2899. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that water transport is totally neglected in the country leading to choking of road and air transport systems and also tourism industry;

(b) whether Government propose to give special attention to water transport in States such as Bihar which have been neglected so far;

(c) what is the expenditure/allocations, state-wise on road/water transport vis-a-vis railway and air transport during the last five year plan and the current plan; and

(d) what is the total capacity created for passenger and freight for the above four modes of transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. The Seventh Plan has accorded a high priority to development of inland water transport. It envisages an outlay of Rs. 155 crores in the Central/Centrally sponsored sector as against Rs. 45 crores during the Sixth Plan.

(b) Seventh Plan provides an outlay of Rs. 20 crores for the development of National Waterway No. 1 i.e. Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly in the Bihar region besides Rs. 0.20 crores for hydrographic surveys and techno-economic studies on river Gandak, Ghaghra and Kosi.

(c) Expenditure/allocation figures for railways and civil air transport are maintained not statewise but for schemes and projects. Two statements showing outlay/expenditure on roads and IWT in the Central Sector are enclosed at Statement I and II respectively. [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No. 116].

(d) Seventh Plan for Railways provides for freight capacity of 231 btkms and passenger capacity of 253 bpkms by the terminal year of the Plan respectively. Seventh Plan capacity for Civil Aviation is being collected. Capacity for roads and IWT are not quantitable in a similar manner as various factors influence such capacities.

Mismanagement and Misunderstanding among the bureaucrats and professional Staff

2900. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is total mismanagement and misdirection and lack of understanding and communication between hard boiled bureaucrats and professional staff as revealed during last C.G.H.S. doctors strike recently:

(b) whether Government propose to professionalise Health Ministry under a professional Health Secretary and abolish DGHS set up which will become redundant and is only duplicating work and causing friction; and

(c) whether scales of pay of Doctors will be made at par with the non-professionals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government has decided to give a package of benefits including pay scales and allowances to doctors as per the enclosed statement.